

The National Early Childhood Transition Initiative

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Background

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) recognized the need for a systematic and strategic technical assistance approach to support the states, territories and jurisdictions in their implementation of the transition requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) (34 CFR 303.148 and 34 CFR 300.124). An [analysis of state performance](#) on the transition compliance indicators as reported in their FFY 05 - 06 Annual Performance Reports (APR) demonstrated a need for system improvement and enhancement.

Purpose

The initiative is based on the recognition of the need for a more uniform, consistent and evidence-based framework for technical assistance. The initiative supports states' capacity to address transition issues, implement improvement activities, and demonstrate progress in meeting the requirements of the State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Reports (APR) for the Early Childhood Transition Indicators C8 and B12 through a variety of technical assistance activities.

Collaborative Partners

The National Early Childhood Transition Initiative represents a collaborative technical assistance effort of [OSEP](#), the [Regional Resource Center Program \(RRCP\)](#), the [National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center \(NECTAC\)](#), the [National Early Childhood Transition Center \(NECTC\)](#) and the [Data Accountability Center \(DAC\)](#). Representatives from each of the partners participate on a steering committee that holds monthly conference calls to plan TA activities, network and share resources on transition across agencies.

Products

- [Designing and Implementing Effective Early Childhood Transition Processes \(March 2008\)](#) (PDF: 1247kb) was developed for TA organizations to support strategic planning efforts with states. It is a framework and tool for states to analyze their transition system infrastructure and systematically identify improvement strategies to improve local implementation of the transition requirements of the IDEA as well as support effective local infrastructures for effective transition practices. System components include:
 - [Component I](#) - Content and Scope
 - [Component II](#) - Interagency Structure
 - [Component III](#) - Interagency Communication and Relationships
 - [Component IV](#) - Interagency Agreements
 - [Component V](#) - Policy Alignment and Congruence
 - [Component VI](#) - Personnel Development, Staff Training and Resources
 - [Component VII](#) - Data Systems and Processes
 - [Component VIII](#) - Monitoring and Evaluation
- [Overview of Designing and Implementing Effective Early Childhood Transition Processes \(March 2008\)](#) (PPT: 292kb) - This presentation provides information about the need for and background of the document as well as a brief overview of the contents.
- [Early Childhood Transition Worksheet](#) (DOC: 68kb) - lists the IDEA transition requirements and key infrastructure components in chart format. It can be used as a planning tool and discussion guide for identifying factors contributing to non-compliance and effective practices. It is a companion to the Designing and Implementing Effective Early Childhood Transition Processes framework document.
- [Self-Assessment for an Early Childhood Transition Infrastructure \(September 2008\)](#) (PDF: 227kb) - This tool corresponds directly to the components and elements presented in the transition document and is intended to be used by state or local interagency teams to assess their current practices and identify improvement activities to enhance the infrastructure necessary to support successful transitions.
- [Side-by-Side of Part C Regulations \(1997\) and IDEA Statutory Requirements \(2004\) on Transition](#) (PDF: 41kb)
- Early Childhood Part C and Part B Requirements Related to Transition Activities/Timelines
 - [Transition Timeline Flow Chart](#) (PDF: 118kb) - illustrates IDEA transition activities and APR Indicator C8 requirements as they relate to Indicator B12 requirements.
 - [Transition Initiative and Transition Processes Powerpoint presentation \(March 2008\)](#) (PPT: 973kb) - This powerpoint provides an overview of the IDEA requirements for Part C and Part B impacting transition and Annual Performance Reports. This training resource can be used as a legal reference with the Designing and Implementing Effective Early Childhood Transition Processes framework document.
 - [Chart with Requirements by Transition Steps](#) (PDF: 232kb) - presents Part C and Part B early childhood transition requirements organized by specific transition activities (e.g., notification, IFSP transition steps, transition conference, Part B evaluation/eligibility determination, and IEP development and implementation.)

Technical Assistance Activities

- Intensive TA and Strategic Planning Initiated with States
Each year a cohort of states has the opportunity to receive individualized TA by a collaborative technical assistance team. The purpose of the TA is to develop and implement improvement strategies and a plan for addressing early childhood transition.
- [National Webinars](#)
 - [Research and State Performance](#) (September 2007)
 - [Data Sharing Across Part C and Part B to Improve Early Childhood Transition](#) (November 2007)